Application No.: 10/018,470 2 Docket No.: 223002100400

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

 (Currently Amended) A method for identifying an amino acid sequence from the N. meningitidis serogroup B strain MC58 genome, comprising the steps of:

providing a computer database comprising the N. meningitidis serogroup B strain MC58 genome sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

searching for putative open reading frames or protein-coding sequences within the computer database; [[and]]

identifying an amino acid sequence corresponding to the searched putative open reading frames or protein-coding sequences; and

outputting the identified amino acid sequence to a user display or to a computer readable media storing the identified amino acid sequence to a computer storage medium.

(Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the searching comprises the steps of:

searching the computer database containing SEQ ID NO:1 for an initiation codon; and searching for an in-frame termination codon downstream of the initiation codon.

- (Withdrawn) A method for producing a protein, comprising the step of expressing a
 protein comprising an amino acid sequence identified according to claim 1.
- 4. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a protein in N. meningitidis, comprising the steps of producing a protein according to claim 3, producing an antibody which binds to the protein, and determining whether the antibody recognizes a protein produced by N. meningitidis.

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5-24 (Cancelled)

- 25. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a protein, comprising the step of expressing a protein comprising an amino acid sequence identified according to claim 2.
- 26. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a protein in N. meningitidi, comprising the steps of producing a protein according to claim 25, producing an antibody which binds to the protein, and determining whether the antibody recognizes a protein produced by N. meningitidis.

27-82 (Cancelled)

- 83. (New) The method of according to claim 1, comprising outputting the identified amino acid sequence to a user display.
- 84. (New) The method according to claim 1, comprising storing the identified amino acid sequence to a computer storage medium.
- (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the putative open reading frame does not consist of one or more of NMB0427, NMB0428, NMB0429 and NMB0430.